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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/694,673	10/28/2003	Jeng-Shyong Wu	71182	4243

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EXAMINER

HAN, JASON

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/694,673

Applicant(s)

WU, JENG-SHYONG

Examiner

Jason M. Han

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 October 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. Numerous grammatical errors are replete throughout the application. The examiner has forgone any correction due to the amount, and the specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: Electrical conductors 2 are missing in Figures 1-2 (Pages 3-4 in the Specification). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and

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informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1 and 13-15 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a. Applicant recites the term, "composing", which is not a common term. Please rewrite to read either "comprising of" / "consisting of";
 - b. Please use consistent language throughout – Applicant cites an "electrical connector", and then recites "said electrical conductor";Appropriate correction is required.
5. Claims 1-15 are objected to because of the following informalities: Numerous grammatical errors are replete throughout and render convoluted and indefinite limitations. Appropriate correction is required.
6. Claims 5 and 7 are objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant recites the limitation "the long trunk". This limitation lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.
7. Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant recites the limitation "the multiple electrical conductors". This limitation lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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8. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.

The examiner has based the following prior art rejections with the best interpretation deemed possible by one ordinarily skilled.

The following claims have been rejected in light of the specification, but rendered the broadest interpretation [MPEP 2111]. Applicant should positively cite the structural limitations to be given full patentable weight within an apparatus claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wu (U.S. Patent 6126298).
2. With regards to Claim 1, Wu discloses a decorative light structure including light strings having electrical connectors of single wire/multiple wires [Figure 9: (13)]

(dependent upon series/parallel electrical connections) and connective luminaries [Figure 9: (11, 12)], as well as non-electrical connectors [Figure 9: (21)].

3. With regards to Claim 2, Wu discloses the non-electrical connectors intertwined with the electrical connectors [Figure 9: (4)].

4. With regards to Claim 3, Wu discloses the electrical connector longer than the non-electrical connector between two or more than two predetermined fixed positions [Figure 9].

5. With regards to Claim 4, Wu discloses the non-electrical connectors being parallel and winding with the electrical connectors [Figure 9].

6. With regards to Claim 5, Wu discloses the predetermined fix areas being on the luminaries [Figure 9: (11, 12)].

7. With regards to Claim 6, Wu discloses the decorative light string [Figure 9: (13)] being intertwined with the non-electrical connectors [Figure 9: (21)].

8. With regards to Claim 7, Wu discloses multiple electrical connectors [Figure 9: (13)] being separated out to connect to luminaries [Figure 9: (11, 12)], whereby the multiple electrical connectors on one side of the long trunk being a curve [Figure 9].

9. With regards to Claim 8, Wu discloses the non-electrical connector composed of single wire [Figure 9: (21)].

10. With regards to Claim 9, Wu discloses the non-electrical connector being attached with decorative articles [Column 5, Lines 5-9; Claim 1].

11. With regards to Claim 10, Wu discloses the non-electrical connector being multiple wires and winding with several decoration light strings [Abstract].

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12. With regards to Claim 11, Wu discloses, "The electrical conductors, lamp base and lamp holder can be connected in series, parallel, or series and parallel to form a complete circuit of the lighting strings [Abstract]."

13. With regards to Claim 12, Wu discloses, "A support structure for a Christmas lighting string includes a lamp bulb, lamp base, lamp holder, multiple electrical conductors, receptacles, flasher control and non-electrical conductor [Abstract]."

14. Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wu (U.S. Patent 6126298).

Wu discloses a decorative light structure including light strings having electrical connectors of single wire/multiple wires [Figure 9: (13)] (dependent upon series/parallel electrical connections) and connective luminaries [Figure 9: (11, 12)], as well as non-electrical connectors [Figure 9: (21)].

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following references are cited to further show the state of the art pertinent to the current application, but are not considered exhaustive:

US Patent 4335422 to Van Ess;

US Patent 5288047 to Pan;

US Patent 5410460 to Liou;

US Patent 5601361 to Lawrence;

US Patent 5676250 to Walters;

US Patent 5934793 to Rahman;

US Patent 5944408 to Tong et al;

US Patent 6149284 to Wang;

US Patent 6184629 to Won;

US Patent 6217193 to Won;

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US Patent 6260987 to Wu;

US Patent 6302562 to Wu;

US Patent 6390645 to Wu;

US Patent 6494592 to Rahman;


US Patent 6657398 to Chang.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Han whose telephone number is (571) 272-2207. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JMH (2/16/2005)



JOHN ANTHONY WARD
PRIMARY EXAMINER